

REMARKS

By this amendment the claims 3, 6, 16, and 19 have been cancelled and claims 1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 15, 17, 20, and 21 have been amended. Accordingly, claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-15, 17, 18, and 20-26 are active, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

DRAWINGS

The Examiner indicated that Figure 1 should be marked –Prior Art—and that corrected drawings should be submitted in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d). The applicants have amended Figure 1 and enclosed a “Replacement Sheet” with appropriate markings.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

The Examiner objected to claims 2 and 15 under 37 CFR 1.75(c), as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Applicant was required to amend the claim(s) to place the claim(s) in proper dependent form. The claims 2 and 15 have been amended to further limit the subject matter of their respective independent claims. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner remove the objection to claims 2 and 14.

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 USC § 112

The Examiner pointed out that claims 1 and 14 using the term “synchronizing” is incorrect because the internal signals are not synchronized with the reference clock. The Examiner noted that the internal signals are actually delayed versions of the reference clock. The Applicants have amended claims 1 and 14 to now include “generating” a signal which is based on the reference clock as is described at paragraphs [20] to [26] in reference to the operation of the invention shown in Fig. 3. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the Applicants have overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C § 112, second paragraph and the claims should be in condition for allowance.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

It is greatly appreciated that the Examiner indicated claims 6-13 and 19-26 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office Action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

As indicated above, the applicant has amended the claims to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. The Applicants have also rewritten claims 1 and 14 to include all the limitations of the base claim and any other intervening claims.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that all active claims are now in condition for allowance and should be passed to issuance.

Conclusion

Based on the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all the claims active in the subject patent application are in condition for allowance and that the application should be passed to issuance.

The Examiner is urged to call the undersigned at the number listed below if, in the Examiner's opinion, such a phone conference would aid in furthering the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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